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RULES and REGULATIONS

To prevent the Invasion of Infectious and contagious Diseases at the port of NEW-YORK.

The great immigration which is entering our country from every port of the world, embracing many people who come from localities where infectious and contagious diseases prevail, justifies the enforcement of the strictest quarantine rules for the exclusion of such diseases.

The following rules and regulations are necessary for the protection of the populations adjacent to the port of New-York, and of the millions of inhabitants in interior communities, from the contagious and infectious diseases that are contracted in foreign countries.

The owners and agents of passenger steamships from foreign ports, will be financially benefited by aiding the quarantine Authorities in securing a strict observance of the following rules.

1. Immigrants on their arrival at the port of embarkation, should receive attention and direction from the Agents of the line on whose steamers they intend to embark, to prevent their having any communication with lodging houses or other resorts suspected of being infected with contagious or infectious diseases. Frequent consultation of the records of the Health Department at the port of departure will contribute to discover infected places.

2. Immigrants should be inspected by an experienced physician as they go on board the steamer, and none but well persons should be allowed to proceed.

3. Immigrants from a cholera infected district or country should be refused passage.

4. Adult persons from localities where small pox prevails as an epidemic should be rejected unless good evidence is afforded that they have been vaccinated within the last five or six years, *except* children less than ten years of age who have been vaccinated.

5. The examination of the steerage passengers as to the necessity for their vaccination should be commenced immediately after they are located on the steamer, and all adult persons should be vaccinated who have not been succesfully vaccinated within the past six years, *except* children under ten years of age who bear good evidence of successful vaccination. If the passengers are successfully vaccinated previous to the development of the disease on the steamer, it will prevent the development of the contagion in those who may have been exposed thereto. It is therefore important that the vaccination should be effected soon after the passengers are received on board. Those who are successfully vaccinated by the surgeon of the steamer before the development of a case of small pox, will not be detained at quarantine.

6. To insure the success of the vaccinations, the *vaccina* should not only be carefully selected but after being obtained *must* be kept in a refrigerator. Two or three days of exposure to the heat of the quarters of the surgeon on board ship will insure its destruction.

7. Morning and evening inspection of the passengers by having them pass before the medical officer should not be neglected. The detection of a case of small pox in the *initial* stage, and its immediate isolation is very important.

8. Hospitals for the sick of contagious diseases should be located on the upper deck forward or aft, and ventilated from the top; never in rooms entering the steerage, or gangways, whereby the contagion poisoned atmosphere of the hospitals may escape and infect well passengers.

9. The patient should not be allowed to leave the hospital after entering it, until removed by the authorities at Quarantine.

10. If the illness of the patient requires the care of an attendant, such attendant should not be permitted to leave the hospital until the Quarantine Authorities direct.

11. To prevent the escape of the patient, or communication with him by unauthorized persons, the hospital should be locked and the key retained by the physician or a trusted attendant. The practice which in some instances has been adopted of establishing a guard to prevent improper communication with the patient is to be commended. All ports lights or ventilators in the hospital so situated as to allow the poisoned atmosphere to be inhaled by well persons should be closed, and ventilation afforded from the top or the side toward the sea.

The faithful observance of these regulations will relieve the several steamship lines of vexations delay and expense and the people of this country from the danger of the introduction of this disease. The same precautions sould be observed in respect to other contagious diseases.

(s) Wm H. SMITH,
HEALTH OFFICER.

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